



UNITED STATE CONGRESS

What People are Saying About the *Helping Heroes Fly Act*

James E. Koutz, National Commander, The American Legion:

“People who suffer disabilities from their military service don’t need the added aggravation – and humiliation – of being screened at airports without the privacy and decency they deserve. We supported the *Helping Heroes Fly Act* when it was introduced by Rep. Tulsi Gabbard and, as law, it will make certain that our nation’s wounded servicemembers and veterans will be screened consistently by TSA personnel – in a way that honors the sacrifices they’ve made to protect America.”

Bill Lawson, National President, Paralyzed Veterans of America:

“Paralyzed Veterans of America supports the *Helping Heroes Fly Act* and plans to participate in the consultation required by the act between the TSA and advocacy groups. PVA members encounter inconsistency in the screening process among airports. Our members are not able to pass through the magnetometer and are subject to pat-downs of varying degrees of intensity. This Act mandates that TSA make every effort to protect the privacy of wounded warriors and ensure that our nation’s heroes are shown their due respect and appreciation, and our members sincerely appreciate that effort. I particularly want to thank Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard for her efforts on behalf of our members and all disabled service members and veterans who travel.”

Steve Nardizzi, CEO and Executive Director, Wounded Warrior Project:

“For too long, those who incurred their injuries in service have been subject to additional airport screening that lacked in privacy, consistency, and respect. We applaud the passage of the *Helping Heroes Fly Act* and the improvements it will make to the screening process of wounded service members and veterans.”

Larry A. Polzin, National Commander, Disabled American Veterans:

“What is needed is a consistent, respectable and dignified way to allow the men and women who bear the scars of our wars to undergo screening without having to prove their prosthetic devices pose no threat. Thanks to Rep. Tulsi Gabbard’s leadership, this bill has passed the House.”

Captain Lee Moak, President, Air Line Pilots Association:

“The Air Line Pilots Association, International, thanks Representative Gabbard for her leadership in passage of the *Helping Heroes Fly Act*, which is a common-sense measure to ensure that our nation’s heroes can pass through airport security with the respect and dignity that they have earned. Allowing severely disabled and wounded service members and veterans to pass through expedited security screening not only honors our service members, but also moves the TSA towards a risk-based security approach to passenger screening, a necessary shift to focus resources on those who are intent to do harm.”

J. David Cox, National President, American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) and Chair, AFL-CIO Veterans Council:

“About one-quarter of the TSO workforce is comprised of veterans—many of them veterans of the recent military conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. They continued their service to the public by working on the front lines of air security at the Transportation Security Administration and upon passage of the *Helping Heroes Fly Act* look forward to ensuring that the wounded warriors they encounter at checkpoint are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve during the screening process.”